CLAIMS

1. A display unit comprising a specific display panel, of a class of display panels, having associated display panel characteristics that influence visual performance of that specific display panel; the display having first storage comprising generic data, common to the class of display panels, for influencing the operation of the display unit and specific data tailored to the associated specific display panel characteristics; and a controller for executing firmware that is responsive to the specific data to influence the visual performance of the specific display panel.

2. A display unit as claimed in claim 1 in which the display unit comprises a housing such that at least the display panel, first storage and controller are at least partially housed within the housing.

3. A display unit as claimed in any preceding claim in which the display unit forms part of a subsystem of a computer system; the subsystem comprising at least the display panel, the first storage and the controller.

4. A display unit as claimed in any preceding claim in which the firmware is common to, and identical across, the class of display panels.

5. A display as claimed in any preceding claim, in which each display panel of the class of display panels has respective associated display panel characteristics.

6. A display unit comprising a flat panel display, a standard video interface for exchanging video and data signals with a standard video card, display driver means to process the video signals to drive the flat panel display to produce an image from the video signals, storage means comprising first data for output to a host computer via the standard video interface relating to the operation of the display unit and flat panel display data relating to operational characteristics of the flat panel display; the flat panel display data being used by the display driver means to influence the operation of the flat panel display in producing said image.

7. A display unit as claimed in claim 8 in which the flat panel display is an LCD panel.

8. A display unit as claimed in either of claims 6 and 7 in which the standard video interface and standard video card complies with one the VGA, SVGA, XGA, SXGA and UXGA standards.

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9. A display unit as claimed in any of 6 to 8 in which the flat panel display data comprises data relating to at least colour temperature within a corresponding colour space

10. A display unit as claimed in claim 9 in which the colour temperature data comprises coordinates within the corresponding colour space of a reference colour.

11. A display unit as claimed in claim 10 in which the reference colour is white at a colour temperature of 6500 Kelvin.

12. A display unit as claimed in any of claims 6 to 1 in which the display driver means comprises at least a microcontroller to run firmware, responsive to the flat panel display data and common to a class of flat panel displays, to influence the operation of the flat panel display.

13. A data processing assembly comprising a computer system unit and a display unit as claimed in any preceding claim.

14. A display panel comprising a flat panel display, of a class of flat panel displays, and first storage, both mounted to a display panel support; the first storage comprising at least specific data, tailored to associated flat panel display characteristics, for use in influencing the operation of the flat panel display when processed by a controller forming part of a subsystem of which the display panel will form an integral part.

15. A display panel as claimed in claim 14 in which the flat panel display is an LCD panel.

16. A method of manufacturing first and second display units; the first display unit having a first display panel with operational characteristics specific to that first display panel and the second display unit having a second display panel with second operational characteristics specific to that second display panel; each unit bearing a standard video interface for outputting and receiving video and data signals; each display unit comprising first non-volatile storage for storing generic data accessible by the standard video interface; the data being used to influence the operation of the display units; the method comprising the steps of establishing respective sets of parameters for controlling the operation of the display panels so that the display panels perform to within common tolerances; the parameters being tailored to the respective operational characteristics; storing the respective sets of parameters within

respective second non-volatile storage of the display units; programming respective first non-volatile storage devices of the first and second display units with common firmware that is responsive to the respective sets of parameters to control the operation of the respective display panels to within the common tolerances.

5   17.   A method of manufacturing first and second computer systems; the first computer system comprising a display device having first operational characteristics and the second computer system comprising a display device having second operational characteristics; the method comprising the steps of

10   establishing respective sets of parameters for controlling the operation of the display devices so that the display devices operate to within common tolerances;

storing the respective sets of parameters within non-volatile storage media of the display devices;

programming respective non-volatile storage devices of the first and second computer systems with common firmware that is responsive to the respective sets of
15   parameters to control the operation of the display devices to within the common tolerances.

18.   A method of manufacturing first and second computer systems having respective display units comprising respective non-volatile storage containing respective operational data to control the operation of the display devices to within common
20   tolerances; the method comprising the step of programming respective non-volatile storage of the first and second computer systems with common firmware that is responsive to the respective sets of parameters to control the operation of the display unit respectively.

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